



Monthly Board Meeting

May 18, 2015

The monthly meeting was held at the Northeast Independent Living Program center at 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843 and began at 7:15 PM.

Attending: Rachael Chambers-Stanley, Andrew DeCarlo, Finn Gardiner, Adam Rajczyk, Daniel Rajczyk, Eva Rajczyk, Lisa Rajczyk, Richard Rodriguez, and Tom "Woody" Wood

MINUTES

A motion was made and voted on to accept the minutes of April 20, 2015 as presented to the Board by Eva Rajczyk.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Previous Balance	\$1,304.34
Deposit	\$ 0.00
Total	\$1,304.34
Disbursements	-\$ 78.00
Total	\$1,281.34

A motion was made and voted on to accept the treasurer's report as presented by Adam Rajczyk and file it for audit.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Angelica "Toni" Acevedo resigned from the Board on April 29, 2015 citing personal reasons.

Andrew DeCarlo from ASAN indicated that he would like to become a Board Member and will send us the application for Board review before next meeting

Demet Haksever resigned from the Advisory Board as well due to lack of time.

Finn Gardiner asked to be considered for the Advisory Board as did Doug Perry. It was decided to vote on these applicants at the next meeting.

VISITORS FROM ASAN

Daniel and Woody introduced us to our visitors from ASAN: Finn Gardiner, Boston Community Coordinator, and Andrew DeCarlo.

FUNDRAISING/NETWORKING

- a. [Salsa Fiesta/Kite Festival](#) – June 6, 2015 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 - (1) Setup at 10:30 AM
 - (2) Cost of table is a case of water and a \$25.00 gift certificate
 - (3) It is important for members to come and help man the table
- b. [Semana Hispana Parade](#) – June 14, 2015 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 - (1) Should be at staging area by 10:30 AM
 - (2) Entry fee was \$20.00
- c. [Summerfest – Lawrence Community Boating](#) – June 20, 2015 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 - (1) Setup at 10:30 AM
 - (2) Absolutely free
 - (3) It is important for members to come and help man the table
- d. There was a discussion about how we would observe [National Disability Awareness Month](#) (October)
 - (1) One suggestion was to have a 1-day workshop about Asperger's and employment.
- e. Advocate, NH
 - (1) Woody told us about a workshop that will be held – will let us know of the exact date and time.
 - (2) Workshop is not just for those on the Spectrum but for people of all disabilities.
- f. Fundraising Dinner – to be held on September 12 – discussion postponed until next meeting.

OTHER

- a. Support Group –
 - (1) Lisa, Woody, and Daniel met twice to discuss the organization of the support group.
 - (2) Primary function of group is to bring Aspies together to network and to discuss issue, including employment.
 - (3) The plan is to meet on the second Tuesday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.
 - (4) We need to have approval from NILP for use of meeting room.
- b. Open Mike Show
 - (1) Woody and Daniel appeared on Tim Coco's Open Mike Show on May 4, 2015.
 - (2) They did an excellent job as did Tim by allowing Daniel and Woody ample time to answer his questions and by promoting Asperger Works
 - (3) The interview can still be viewed either by clicking on the link on our Webpage or by going directly to <http://www.whav.net/cms/?p=8617>.
- c. Reports –
 - (1) Meeting with DDS ([see attached PDF document](#)) – attended by Daniel and Eva
 - (2) Meeting with NILP ([see attached PDF document](#)) – attended by Daniel and Eva
 - (3) CLASS Inc. Workshop –
 - (a) Daniel reported on the workshop he attended regarding disabled high-school students' transitioning to adulthood
 - (b) He found it very interesting and useful.
 - (c) There will be another workshop in the Fall.
 - (4) Associate Grant Makers Workshop – ([see attached PDF document](#)) – attended by Rachael
 - (a) Membership: Individual = \$100, Nonprofit organization: \$340
 - (b) Rachael will try to schedule Allistar Mallilin (Grant Writer and Presenter) to speak to us at one of our meetings. She does not know how much he would charge or when he would be available.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SALSA Fiesta/Kite Festival – Saturday, June 6, 2015 – Lawrence (11:00 AM – 3:00 PM)

Semana Hispana Parade – Sunday, June 14, 2015 – Lawrence (10:30 AM – 1:00 PM)

Summerfest 2015 – Saturday, June 20, 2015 – Lawrence Boat Club (11:00 AM – 3:00 PM)

Board Meeting – Monday, June 22, 2015 – 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence (7:00 – 9:00 PM)

Respectfully submitted,

Eva

Eva Rajczyk
Secretary

Meeting with Ann Lorenzo and Hillary Hollis of DDS

The meeting between Ann Lorenzo, Hillary Hollis, Daniel Rajczyk, and Eva Rajczyk was held on April 27, 2015 at Salvatore's Restaurant in Lawrence, MA. The basis of the meeting was to introduce AWorks to DDS and to find out what, if anything, DDS can do for us.

The ASD department of DDS is brand new with only two employees: Ann and Hillary. Both Ann and Hillary were very excited about what AWorks will have to offer the Merrimack Valley Community in the near future. We discussed the implementation of the new law (see <http://aspergerworks.org/frequently-asked-questions/commission-help-asd-people>), which was responsible for the ASD department at DDS. Ann mentioned that as far as they understand it funding through their department is available for all adults on the Spectrum who had been diagnosed prior to their 18th birthday. Daniel pointed out that if that is correct, there would be no financial help available for those who, like him, were diagnosed as adults. Both women assured him that they will look into the matter and assured the AWorks representatives that they will lobby to make changes in the law to reflect the needs of our potential clients. Additionally, they invited Daniel to speak to members of DDS about AWorks and about the needs of adults on the Spectrum, especially those of adults diagnosed with Asperger's.

It appears that adults on the Spectrum can receive up to \$25,000 a year in financial assistance from the department. Their clients are expected to self-advocate (clients/families are their own agents). For instance, the Agency can suggested that they could get services with AWorks. Once they (the clients or families) decide to "hire" AWorks, ASD at DDS provides them with the necessary funds.

In order to know how much we would need to charge, we have to come up with a formal proposal. The proposal needs to include salaries, administration fees, cost of office space, etc. For instance, usually job coaches are hired on an hourly basis

at \$15.00 per hour, working with each client approximately 1 hour three days a week.

The meeting was basically a brainstorming session with many ideas emanating from Ann and Hillary.

- Contact [NE ARC](#), in particular Cathy Kelly, Director of Transition Services
 - Phone: 978-624-2342
 - E-mail: kkelly@ne-arc.org
- Partner with [UMass Lowell Connections](#) (Dr. Ashleigh Hillier)
 - Phone: 978-934-2930
 - E-mail: ashleigh_hillier@uml.edu
- [Project Search NECC](#) and/or [Partnership with NECC](#)
- MASS Health Funding?
 - Social therapy
 - OT/SLP
- For help with organizing our walk/run
 - [Joppa Running Club of Newbury](#)
 - Volunteer running strip
 - Community Reach-out
 - [Winners Circle, MA](#) of Salisbury, MA
 - Sponsor of [LHC North Canal Classic 5k Run/Walk](#)
- Check out
 - [Federation for Children](#)
 - [Boston Children's Hospital](#), Dr. Janice Ware
 - Phone: 617-355-5721
- Contact local colleges' Psych and/or Ed Departments

Meeting with June Cowen Sauvageau and Meghan McCann of Northeastern Independent Living Program

Daniel Rajczyk and Eva Rajczyk met with June Sauvageau, Executive Director, and Meghan McCann, Quality Project Manager, of NILP on May 7, 2015. Both June and Meghan were anxious to meet with us. As a result, we had a very productive meeting. June explained that their primary focus is transitioning young adults (ages 16 to 22) from school to the workplace and/or college. They would like to form an informal partnership with us through which they would provide our clients (customers)

- Independent living skills training
- Employment readiness training
- Core services, such as skills training (resume writing, etc.)

We would provide

- Job coaching/mentoring that is so needed and unavailable at this time
- Employer reach-out / Employer "training"
- Available jobs for our clients

Additionally, we would be able to apply for certain grants jointly, since many grant givers like to see partnerships and/or cooperation between service providers.

They also offered to help us out by providing us the use of their meeting room for our monthly meetings and for our up- coming Aspie Support Group meetings at their offices (Northeast Independent Living Center, 22 Ballard Street, Lawrence, MA).

June invited Daniel to attend the next monthly Executive Directors Round Table discussion at Jericho Road. This group is made up of EDs of local non-profits. June felt that Daniel could benefit from inclusion in this group for two reasons:

1. To enable him to work with other non-profit EDs
2. To network and advertise Asperger Works

Daniel expressed the idea that perhaps there would be someone in this group who could mentor him about the ins-and-outs of being an ED, a job he understands in theory but which he is unsure of when it comes to actual performance since he had never help such a position before. June was sure that at least one member of the group would help him out.

We were told that each year NILP receives an Entrepreneurship Grant that provides internship opportunities for minimum 15 to maximum of 25 young adults. Here, too, we could profit since

NILP needs to place these young people with area employers, of which we would be one. Training sessions will be starting this month after completion of which, internship placement will take place. Daniel immediately put in a request for an intern who would be interested in working as Daniel's executive secretary.

It was decided that Meghan will be our contact person at NILP, since June is often on the road and difficult to get hold of.

It was suggested that we should get in touch with the [Mental Health and Human \(DMH\) Transition Age Youth Initiative](#) program to let them know of our existence and to give them information about the services we intend to provide. It appears that there are more and more students are identified on the Autism Spectrum; so there will be increased need for our services.

Additionally, it was recommended that we get in touch with [Beacon Health Strategies](#) and Susan Cooper of GIC's EAP Coordinator (they will give us the contact information).

Another topic of discussion was the role of the family once there are enough non-family Members on the Board. It was suggested that the family should form a foundation thereby remaining involved in Asperger Works but in a more informal way.

Meghan indicated that she may want to become an AWorks Board Member but has not yet made any definite commitment.

NIPL is expanding physically and are in the midst of construction. Depending on how much space their organization needs, they might be able to give us some office space to begin providing services.

At the end of our formal meeting, June and Meghan took us around the office and introduced us to people in different departments, all of whom were quite excited about our organization.

AGM Workshop (Associated Grant Makers)

Associate Grant Makers

- Made up of 100+ public, private, and corporate grant making organizations in Mass & NH
- AGM's partners include more than 600 nonprofit organizations
- AGM acts as bridge of communication, interest, and understanding between the grant makers and grant seekers

Pro Bono Services

- Volunteer Lawyers for Arts (\$35)
- Lawyers Clearing House

Make sure website is clear for funders

(bolded info. is considered very important)

- When Founded
- Population Served
- Mission Statement
- Vision Statement
- Current Programs
- What we do
- **How we are making an impact**
- **Opportunity Gap**
- **Personal Stories**

Sited used by Donors & Advisors

- Guided Star
- Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance
- Charity Navigator (organizations \$1m and over)
- Giving Common (database created by the Boston Foundation)

Several types of grant makers

- Corporate Foundations & Giving programs
- Community Foundations (**lookup Essex county community foundations**)
- Independent & Family Foundations
- Public Charities (ie AARP)

Individual Donors

- Donor Advised Funds (DAF)
- Fidelity Charitable DAF
- Newspaper articles about nonprofit
- Benevon Method
- Donors Choose (good for teachers)
- Crowdfunding

How to find funders & build relationships

(develop relationship to develop other funds)

- Follow foundations on social media
- Volunteer
- Participate in Events & Galas
- Check the news
- Town Hall

AGM Workshop (Associated Grant Makers)

Research Resources

- Associated Grant Makers
- Foundation Center
- Chronicle of Philanthropy
- Guide Star

Statement of Need

- Focus on those serve versus organization need
- Share why your organization is the best to address the need
- Explain urgency
- Back it up with research-statistics
- Use qualitative & quantitative research

Other Resources

- Boston Public Library (Foundation Directory free)
- Massachusetts Demographics-
www.mapc.org (good for "need" statements-stats)
- National Council of Nonprofits
- Extraordinary Experiences for Donors

Other Grants Information

- You can receive partner grants (need to specify the partnership)
- If renting from another nonprofit, partner grant is based on the "Letter of Intent or Agreement."

Jeannine Laing, Executive Director

Franklin Park Tennis Association

152 Columbus Ave

Roxbury MA 02119

jeannine_laing@hotmail.com

(c) 617.686.0593

(o) 617.427.8900

AGM Workshop Connection: Jeannine has a child with Autism. She is a former Board Member for **Asperger's Association of New England** (Had a very good conversation with Jeannine, sent a follow up email, and will follow up with a phone call in 1-2 weeks in order to obtain the contact at Asperger's Association of New England)

Allistar Mallilin, Grant Writer & Presenter

Associate Grant Makers

617.426.2606 ext.138

amallilin@agmconnect.org

AGM Workshop Connection: Allistar is willing to travel to the North Shore area in order to conduct a presentation about Associate Grant Makers and how their Association can help nonprofits with funding. Keep in mind that this organization has several Funder's events, where the Nonprofit and Funder meet. (there will be a fee)